Floral Reflections on the Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Mary understood throughout her life how richly God had blessed her. The lily is a symbol of Mary's purity and openness to God's will. Reflect upon this beautiful image and how you might open yourself more fully to God's grace.

Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus.

We honor Mary as the mother of Jesus and as our mother as well. The strawberry plant symbolizes Mary's fruitfulness. Enjoy the pleasure of eating a strawberry or other piece of fruit. Reflect on how God is calling you to be the bearer of life to all those you meet today.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners . . .

We turn to Mary as an intercessor, one who prays on our behalf. The lily of the valley is also known as "Our Lady's Tears" due to the shape of the small blossoms. Let Mary's compassion and kindness wash over you when asking her for prayers of comfort and consolation.

Now and at the hour of our death.

The Rosary includes mediations on both the joys and sorrows in Mary's life. The rose has symbolized these mysteries since ancient times. As Mary stood vigil beneath her Son's cross, let her faith and trust be a model of hope and inspiration for you each and every day of your life.

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